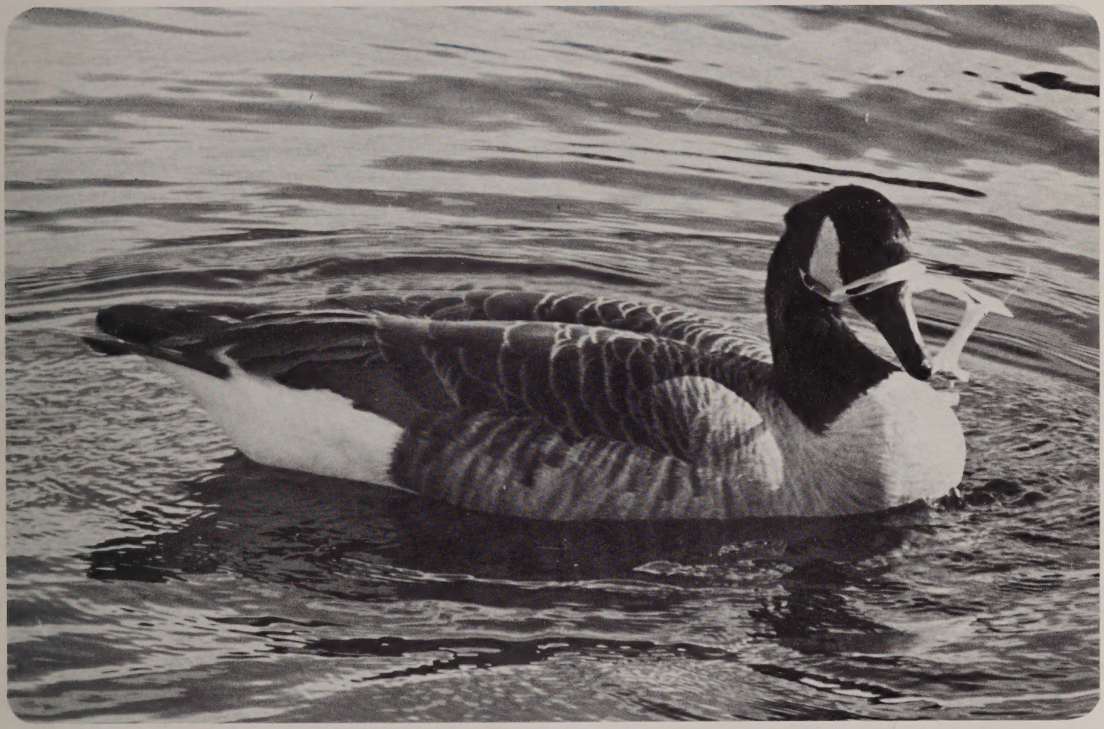
OUR FOURFOOTED FRIENDS

SPRING 1980



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ON THE COVER: This Canada goose was spotted on a pond in Sudbury, with its beak trapped in a plastic ring from a six-pack, an example of how careless littering by humans not only spoils the environment but also endangers wildlife.

Photo by Gene Dixon, courtesy of Boston Herald American

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON

Publisher of
OUR FOURFOOTED FRIENDS

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Spring 1980

Volume 77, Number 1

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OUR FOURFOOTED FRIENDS... (US ISSN 0030 6851) Published quarterly by the Animal Rescue League of Boston, 10 Chandler Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02116. Price $4.00 a year. Office of Publication, Animal Rescue League of Boston, 10 Chandler St. Boston, Massachusetts 02116. Address all correspondence, editorial, change of address, subscriptions to the Animal Rescue League of Boston, P.O. Box 265, Boston, Massachusetts 02117. Second Class Postage has been paid at Boston, Massachusetts.

from the president's desk

Saving Shelter Pets From Seizure

The Massachusetts Legislature currently has before it several bills that would repeal chapter 49A - the so-called Pound Seizure Law. I strongly support the repeal of this legislation.

This law was passed in 1957 and authorizes the requisition of unclaimed live animals from animal pounds in the Commonwealth by research institutions licensed for this purpose by the Commissioner of Public Health. This has been a very emotional and controversial law since its passage and one that deserves and requires careful analysis to put it in its proper perspective.

First, it should be noted that the issue posed by animal seizure legislation is not vivisection vs. anti-vivisection, but rather the source of supply of animals for this purpose, and whether public pounds and animal shelters should be compelled by law to provide animals for experimental uses. Humane societies, including the League, have long taken the position that public and private animal shelters should not be forced to surrender animals entrusted to their care. To do so is contrary to the very purpose and function of such shelters. The Animal Rescue League has not and will not surrender any animals for this purpose.

The established principle of animal shelters is at once the removal of lost, stray or abandoned animals from public places to comfortable safekeeping, the maintenance of such animals until they can be returned to their owners, placed in new homes or humanely destroyed, and at the same time, the provision of a safe temporary home for owner-surrendered animals for which new homes are sought or for which euthanasia is required or requested. The surrender of animals from animal shelters for purposes not for the benefit of the animals released, including purposes of experimentation, has never been a part of the principles motivating the operation of such facilities.

Another concern is the fact that pound or "pet" seizure laws often result in a serious breakdown of public confidence in our animal shelters and over-all animal control efforts in the community. I believe this fact is born out in the increasing concern of the general public as demonstrated by the fact that there are presently four bills in our legislature to repeal this law. The other strong support for this position is the fact that several other states, in the past few years, have recognized this same need and removed similar laws from their books by legislative action.

An important amendment to our dog laws has been submitted and is needed to eliminate a possible loop hole in the repeal of Chapter 49A. This is a simple amendment which would define the fact that dog officers could only sell unclaimed animals to private citizens as pets, thereby eliminating the possibility of voluntary sales of pets by dog officers for any purpose other than as a personal pet.

Again, I would respectively point out that the question raised by this issue is not the legality of medical research, which is well established, but rather that animal pounds are both morally and functionally not the proper source of supply when one considers the basic purpose of these shelters and the realization that the lost and stray animals they are intended to shelter have been individual pets. It is my sincere opinion based on our many years of experience with such unfortunate animals that they are physically, medically and psychologically unfit for research purposes.

Arthur G. Slade
President

Annual Report

1979

An increase in the number of concerned individuals willing to help the League provide support and services for animals in need was one of the most significant and heartening aspects of the year just ended. During 1979, the League's 80th year of service, over 2600 new members and donors joined in the effort to make the world a better and more humane place for animals.

Their assistance, added to the deeply appreciated support of thousands of A.R.L. members and friends of long-standing, enables the League to look to the future with great enthusiasm.

One major change in League operations during 1979 was the decision to alter the League's arrangement for dog pound service to the City of Boston, a municipal responsibility which has not been normally performed by humane societies, especially those in other large cities like Denver, Chicago, San Diego, Hartford and Los Angeles, to name just a few. This change afforded the League the opportunity to evaluate and redirect its efforts toward an expansion in the nature and scope of more direct humane services. In the planning stage now, for example, is a renovation and expansion of animal clinic facilities at our headquarters to provide greater and more efficient veterinary care for the thousands of animals treated each year.

As a full service humane society, the League continues to provide such services as rescuing animals in distress, caring for animals injured on the streets, picking up unwanted animals, finding new homes for them through its adoption program, providing outpatient animal health care, investigating cruelty and abuse complaints, inspecting places where animals are kept or used throughout eastern Massachusetts, conducting livestock conservation programs and humane education services to teach youngsters to appreciate animals and foster humane attitudes in future generations.

1979 also saw the inauguration of two new services for pets and their owners: the "Emergency Pet Alert" card and the League's "Operation Identification" program to facilitate the recovery of lost pets. The wallet-sized "Emergency Pet Alert" card was offered free of charge for pet owners who live alone. Should they be hospitalized due to accident or emergency illness, the card gives the names of two friends or relatives to be contacted to care for their pets left at home. In its "Operation Identification" program, the League offered, again at no charge, a "Help Find Our Pet" brochure and poster, with tips on searching for lost pets and space to record a pet's description, distinctive markings and side and front view photos.

The League was instrumental in supporting the passage of several humane legislation bills in Massachusetts during 1979. The new laws included the mandatory requirement of rabies vaccinations for dogs before licenses will be issued, the reporting of auto accidents in which a dog is injured or killed, more humane quarantine regulations for horses with equine infectious anemia, and new measures to protect non-game threatened or endangered species.

During the year, 1,577 lost pets were returned to their owners, and new homes were found for 3,650 animals adopted from the League, including 1,826 dogs, 1,766 cats and 58 miscellaneous animals. Here are just a few of the many warm comments received from those who have recently opened their homes and hearts to League orphans:

"Hoogie is doing just great. I've never seen a better behaved, more adorable, mischievous, loving kitten. Thank you"

"She is a wonderful addition to our home and has adjusted very well to our other puppy. She is happy, healthy and very affectionate! The perfect puppy! We love her."

"Our puppy and cat have adjusted very well. We are very happy with them. They are so friendly and loving that they've become irresistible."

League inspectors during the year handled 1,339 investigations involving a total of 50,329 animals. This included responses to complaints of cruelty or abuse, as well as routine inspections of kennels,

fairs, livestock auctions, pet shops, and other places where animals are kept, displayed or sold.

Highlights of the year at the League's Pine Ridge Cemetery for Small Animals in Dedham included the appointment of Michael Thomas as superintendent, succeeding Arthur Foster who retired after 43 years of service, preparations for the opening of a new section this summer, and the use of the cemetery as a release site for rescued wildlife, including birds and raccoons. For the animals at the League's Sheldon Branch in Salem, health care is now provided through the headquarters veterinary staff in Boston, and at the Cape Cod Branch in Brewster a new veterinary service was inaugurated this year. The Cape Cod Branch also built a new corral this year for the temporary care of needy animals, conducted Pet Patrol programs (a lost and found pet service) on radio station WVLC five times a week, plus an Animal Corner broadcast every Saturday, and also conducted several school presentations and nursing home pet program visits.

The livestock conservation department had an active year, presenting educational programs on livestock care and safety to 4-H groups, university students, animal science groups, livestock producers, and fairs and meetings where they reached close to one million people with their message of concern for New England livestock.

Education directed at creating humane attitudes and concern for animals among young people continued to receive strong emphasis at the League. The education and information staff prepares and distributes pamphlets on proper pet care, conducts humane education courses and presentations for school children, provides volunteer internships in animal-related activities for high school and college students, and helps children become better acquainted with animal life and nature at the Animal Friends Summer School on Cape Cod.

SERVING ANIMALS IN 1979

A Record of Services for the Year Ending December 31, 1979

SHELTER SERVICES FOR STRAY HOMELESS AND ABANDONED ANIMALS	Dogs	Cats	Horses	Cattle	Sheep Swine	Birds	Misc.	TOTAL
Collected by Agents	5,415	6,733	— — —	— — —	— — -	169	221	12,538
Brought to Boston Shelter	5,168	5,357	— — —	— — —	— — -	19	85	10,629
Sheldon Branch (Salem)	1,457	4,509	— — —	— — —	— — -	109	163	6,238
Pine Ridge (Dedham)	38	82	— — —	— — —	— — -	1	9	130
Cape Cod Branch (Brewster)	1,226	924	— — —	— — —	— — -	37	175	2,362
	13,304	17,605	——	——	——	335	653	31,899

Of the above animals, 1,826 dogs, 1,766 cats and 58 miscellaneous animals were placed in homes, and 1,409 dogs and 168 cats were restored to owners. The balance were humanely destroyed.

AID TO PETS, LIVESTOCK AND WILDLIFE								
Treated in Clinic	6,269	3,713	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	50	10,032
Inspections and Investigations	3,392	615	10,724	15,260	2,989	8,363	8,986	50,329
Rabies Control Cases	908	42	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	1	951
Total Animals Served	**23,873**	**21,975**	**10,724**	**15,260**	**2,989**	**8,698**	**9,690**	**93,209**

Number of alleged cruelty investigations: 1,339

Sandy, Arf and Bojangles get acquainted.

The welcome sign was up and even the cats were putting on the dog when Sandy, canine star of the hit musical comedy "Annie", recently trotted over from the Colonial Theatre to visit with her less fortunate fellow orphans at the Animal Rescue League shelter.

Along with Sandy (a female whose off-stage name is Bunny) came her understudy, Arf, another foundling who made it from shelter to stardom. The League's mascot, Bojangles, greeted the visiting celebrities and escorted them on a tour of the shelter where they visited with the puppies and older animals waiting for adoption, and afterwards enjoyed a treat of chewy bones.

Sandy is in Boston from November through mid-April, performing in the well-loved story of a little girl's search for her long-lost mother and father during the depression, and Sandy, the stray who becomes her faithful companion in the search. The musical is the winner of seven Tony awards, including Best Musical of 1977, the New Drama Critics' Circle Award, seven Drama Desk Awards, a Theatre World Award, a Grammy Award for the best original cast LP, and Cue's Golden Apple Award. In 1979, Sandy added to these honors by winning the Patsy Award, the animal equivalent of the Academy Award Oscar, presented by The American Humane Association.

The stray that turned star in the Boston production was discovered by Lan Brook, her new owner, abandoned at an animal shelter in New York, where she had been taken after being abused by her previous owner. According to Sandy's official biography in Playbill Magazine, the canine actor is handled and trained by Dawn Animal Agency which is affiliated with the Sanctuary for Animals in Colts Neck, N.J. and a good portion of Sandy's salary goes to support the Sanctuary, which is a non-profit organization that provides homes for animals.

Stage Star Sandy Visits Friends at the League

The original Sandy, star of the Broadway performance of "Annie", was discovered at the Connecticut Humane Society's Newington shelter, where he was adopted in May, 1976, by William Berloni. The Connecticut Humane Society's famous alumnus, who has performed for President Carter at the White House, made a return visit to the shelter last summer for the presentation of the Richard C. Craven trophy from the Patsy Awards committee. Neither the dog nor his owner had been able to attend the Patsy Award ceremonies in Los Angeles.

The heartwarming story of Sandy's journey from foundling home to footlights is now available in a book, "Sandy, the Autobiography of a Star," written with the help of owner/trainer Bill Berloni and writer Allison Thomas.

Meanwhile, life goes on as usual for the less fortunate fourfooted foundlings at the shelter, who still wait patiently to be discovered -- not by fame or fortune, but simply by a friend.

The original Sandy has recently published his autobiography.

An Update on Easter Pets

Once upon a time, children searched everywhere on Easter morning for colored eggs hidden by an over-sized floppy-eared creature known as the Easter Bunny.

How did this tradition get started? It's easy to see why eggs, as a symbol of new life, became associated with the pagan rites of spring and the later Christian celebration of Easter. The origin of the Easter Bunny is a little harder to trace, but according to one Germanic legend, a poor woman dyed eggs during a famine and hid them in a bird nest as an Easter gift for her children. Just as the children discovered the nest, a large rabbit hopped away from it and the children spread the story that the big rabbit had brought the eggs for them. Even in ancient Egypt, though, the rabbit was a symbol of birth and new life.

Today, the sale of baby chicks is illegal in Massachusetts, and in 24 other states as well. Those who look hard enough though are usually able to find them, sometimes dyed in pastel hues -again, illegally. The majority of these thoughtlessly purchased "pets" will be dead within days, because few people have the know-how to ensure their survival in a strange environment. Similarly, baby ducklings purchased as impulse Easter gifts frequently turn up in area lakes, rivers and ponds, abandoned as they begin to grow up in the mistaken notion that they can survive on their own. While rabbits can be purchased in Massachusetts, they too are a poor gift choice. The small, caged bunny needs lots of room and care as it grows into a mature rabbit, and few people are able to meet these needs. Many of these unwanted Easter pets turn up later at animal shelters, but they are almost impossible to place in homes and usually must be destroyed.

Aside from the needless suffering it causes for animals, the Easter pet trade also represents a significant health hazard for children and adults alike. Many cases of salmonellosis, a disease caused by the salmonella bacteria, have been traced over the years to baby chicks or ducklings. The disease, which is easily transmitted to humans and to other pets in the household, causes fever, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea and dehydration, and can lead to death.

For the sake of the young animals -- and for their own sake -- families are urged by humane associations to resist those cute, fluffy chicks and bunnies, and stick with the chocolate variety. Those who really want a live pet -- and are prepared to care for it -- should select one that will be able to remain happily with the family for years to come.

A puppy or kitten makes a more humane gift from the Easter Bunny.

Pine Ridge Cemetery For Small Animals-- A Haven of Happy Memories

Superintendent Michael Thomas prepares grounds for spring visitors.

With the exception of some Hindu beliefs relating to reincarnation, most modern theologies do not recognize the existence of an animal soul. Nevertheless, those who have known the friendship of a pet have sought ways through the years to commemorate their pets' existence after death. Cemeteries for pets have existed at least since the days of the ancient Egyptians, and, according to the National Association of Pet Cemeteries, there are currently 450 pet cemeteries in the U.S. compared with 340 a decade ago.

"This burial is something I wanted to do, because I felt Mister deserved it," is the way Waltham police officer Bob Landry recently explained his decision to finance out of his own pocket a funeral for his K-9 partner, Mister. Many, like Officer Landry, feel that a formal burial is a way of paying tribute to an animal -- an expression of gratitude for years of companionship and service. For others, a burial with dignity is a way to ease their own grief at the loss of a pet, and a peaceful, well maintained grave site that can be visited in years to come ensures the preservation of happy memories.

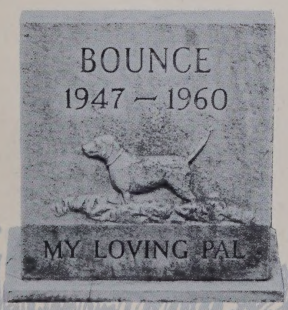
Alone or in combination, sentiments like these have brought generations of pet owners to the League's Pine Ridge Cemetery for Small Animals, since its opening in 1907. Located in Dedham, Mass., Pine Ridge is the oldest animal cemetery in the nation operated by a humane protective association. Today, there are more than 5,000 small animals, including dogs, cats, birds and even hamsters, guinea pigs, turtles, rabbits and a monkey buried on the 21-acre site.

Some of them are famous -- or infamous -- by virtue of their owners. Admiral Richard Byrd's dog, Igloo, the fox terrier that accompanied Byrd on his first expedition to the South Pole, rests beneath an impressive stone marker. Another engraved stone tablet marks the burial place of three dogs owned by accused ax murderess Lizzie Borden. Also buried at Pine Ridge are the pets of George Arliss, popular British actor of the 1920's; Boston Symphony conductor Serge Koussevitsky; and the Milton family who founded Jordan Marsh. Other pets were important only to their owners, but their identities and personalities are still preserved today by touching inscriptions like the following enduring testimonies of devotion:

"Our Pal, Spottie, 1961-1976 (a simple story of fifteen years of friendship)

"Bounce, 1947-1960, My Loving Pal"

"Fate's Laddie, 1964-1972, If love could have saved him, he never would have died"



In the newer area of the cemetery, grave markers are flush with the ground, to facilitate landscaping and preserve the park-like atmosphere. This June, a special section will be opened that is reserved for pet owners who wish to erect an upright headstone over their pet's grave. Winding paths, decorative gardens and shrubbery, a large bird population attracted by drinking pools and winter feeding stations, and scrupulous year-round maintenance of grounds and grave sites, all contribute to Pine Ridge's rural and peaceful atmosphere.

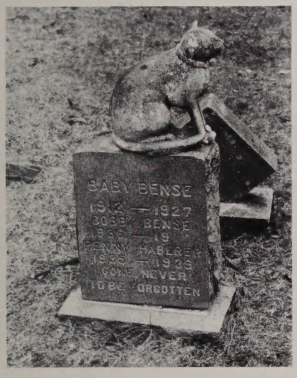
"It's a nice, peaceful place to work," notes Pine Ridge superintendent Michael Thomas, who lives on the grounds with his wife and four children. A graduate of Dedham High School, Thomas studied forestry and landscaping at the Norfolk County Agricultural School, and has worked at Pine Ridge for the past eight years.

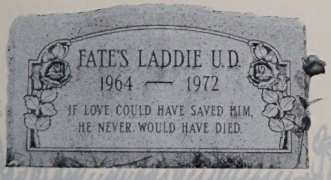
This time of year finds Thomas busy preparing the grounds and landscaping for the annual arrival of Memorial Day visitors. Last year, during Memorial Day weekend, between 250 and 300 floral pieces were placed on graves of pets, he estimates. Last Christmas, wreaths were placed on graves dating back to the early 1950's, almost thirty years ago, a witness to the durability of memories and loyalty.

In 1979, 130 small animals were buried at Pine Ridge and 220 were cremated. The ashes of pets that are cremated are either given to the owner, or may be buried at Pine Ridge, or scattered in a lovely, wooded section of the cemetery.

One explanation for the increasing number of pet cemeteries in the nation in recent years may be the trend toward urban living and the declining number of families living in large houses surrounded by property. People who in years gone by would have buried generations of pets on their own land, secure in the knowledge that they'd always be nearby, must now seek other solutions when a pet dies. For them, a sanctuary like Pine Ridge, dedicated to the loving companionship so generously and consistently given by our fourfooted friends, provides a compassionate alternative.

Located on Pine Street in Dedham, the cemetery is open every day of the week and visitors are welcome between 10 a.m and 5 p.m.





Issues and Answers

Animal Experiments

Nearly 60 million animals a year are used as subjects for a variety of experiments by research institutions across the country. Most of the major hospitals and research facilities in the Boston area are actively conducting experimentation on animals.

The Animal Rescue League of Boston recognizes the need for biomedical research involving animals because of the beneficial effects it produces for man and animals alike. However, we are opposed to the unnecessary pain, suffering, and mishandling to which these creatures are often subjected.

The League feels there are three principle aspects of animal experimentation that need to be corrected: 1) the ever increasing number of animals used in research projects who must suffer from surgery without the use of anesthetics or pain relieving drugs, and those made to endure long-term misery or suffering in the name of science; 2) the needless duplication of experiments where reliable data has previously been collected elsewhere. 3) The absence of an impartial medical review board to determine the merits or relevance of proposed research projects involving live animals before experimentation begins.

ACTION:

In Congress, the House Science and Technology Committee is now considering H.R. 4805, called the Research Modernization Act. It establishes a National Center for Alternative Research in the National Institute of Health. Between 30 and 50 percent of the federal funds spent on animal research, would go to alternative methods of research replacing the use of live animals. It would also provide training programs for scientists in research techniques not involving animals, and would also discontinue the needless duplication of research involving animals. Ask your Representatives and Senators in Washington to support the intent of H.R. 4805 and any other legislation which has a similar purpose.

Euthanasia

Putting animals to sleep for their own sake is complex and confusing for many people -especially humane societies. Euthanasia simply means killing without pain. Some humane societies boast that they do not euthanize any animals–"they don't believe in it"—giving the impression that this makes them more humane than the rest of us.

Humane societies do not buy or breed pets or in any way create a demand for unwanted animals. The animals at an animal shelter fall into two general categories: 1) those that are lost or not wanted by their owners for various reasons; 2) those animals whose owners request they be euthanized because they are very sick, old or suffering.

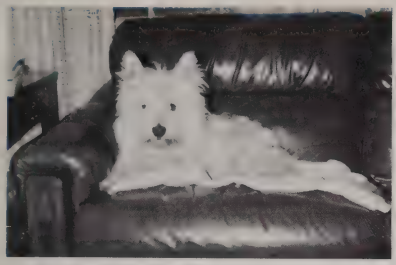
Is a humane society serving the true needs of all animals by refusing to help those in the latter category? "No." For lost pets, the sensible approach is to hold the pet for a reasonable time in hopes of reuniting it with its owner or possibly finding a new home for it if it is healthy and suitable for a new family. However, most families want puppies and kittens. There are various reasons given by owners who no longer want their pets: they can't train it, it bites, runs away, can't afford to keep it, or it has unexpected offspring. It would be fair and compassionate to find nice families to adopt some of these pets, but what about those with the behavior problems? It is a sad commentary on society today, when we come to the realization that thousands are in this category. Is it humane to keep an animal in a cage for weeks and weeks or months because its not wanted any longer nor adoptable? Some places do, rather than euthanize it, while turning away adoptable animals because they have no room.

The Animal Rescue League of Boston, a non-profit humane society, believes in humane treatment of all animals. It exists to relieve their suffering. Those humane societies that profess not to kill animals are doing nothing more than avoiding the problem. They turn their backs on animals who have become misfits due to the whims of misguided and uncaring people and are suffering psychologically as well as physically. By refusing to take charge of such animals, they are relegating them to a fate far worse than being euthanized by a responsible humane society - they are encouraging abandonment which leads to more suffering, abuse and prolonged, but eventual death, which in no way can be characterized as euthanasia or humane.

ACTION:

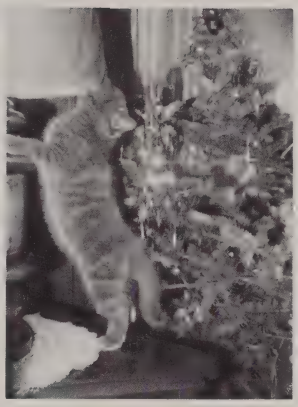
Support the Animal Rescue League of Boston and other responsible humane societies and local animal control activities which include: 1) educating pet owners toward more responsible care of their pets; 2) spaying and neutering to prevent surplus pets; 3) obeying leash and license laws to protect pets from becoming lost, stolen or injured in traffic accidents; and 4) informing pet owners of the many services provided by responsible humane societies other than just adoption programs, such as shelter for the lost and abandoned, rescue of the injured and helpless, prevention of animal abuse through inspections and investigations, and, when necessary, prosecutions.

PETS IN THE PICTURE



Luana Devenis of Lexington sent along this photo of Duffy who was adopted from the League and "has adjusted to his new home beautifully...Duffy follows me all around the house and is a wonderful little companion. I cannot comprehend why anyone would abandon such a nice little dog. But their loss is my gain and we are so glad to have him."

From Howard Proctor of Manchester, N.H. comes a report on his cat "Tudy", also a League alumnus, who is doing "excellently." Mr. Proctor writes: "Even though I live in New Hampshire, the best kittens come from Boston." P.S. "I sure could use some spare lamp-shades!"



Arthur Crofoot of Falmouth sends along this photo of "Puddy" and "The Rasher", born a week apart in 1970, they have been with Mr. Crofoot since they were eight weeks old. "They are Cairn Terriers and I have a real hang-up for the breed...they're in excellent health and I make sure that they stay that way! I wouldn't take the world or any part thereof for either one or both of them...Keep up the good work for all our friends."

New Car Bumper Sticker Available

Cautions drivers to slow down to avoid hitting animals who have wandered into the road.

$1.00 each. Price includes tax and postage.

Please send me_____Bumper Stickers

I am enclosing $1.00 for each one requested.

Mail to:

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

State _____ Zip _____

GUESS WHO-O-O WAS SHOPPING IN JORDAN'S?

League ambulance agent Alan Borgal holds a tiny Saw-whet owl which was found flying around the Jordan Marsh warehouse in Quincy. Borgal rescued the rarely-seen bird and took it to the Massachusetts Audubon Sanctuary at Drumlin Farm in Lincoln.

ENDANGERED SPECIES CONFERENCE TO BE HELD ON CAPE COD

The Northeast Endangered Species Conference, a symposium on threatened and endangered species in the northeast states from Virginia to Maine, will be held May 9-11, in Provincetown, Mass. On May 8 and 9, invited scientists will take part in workshops on mammals, birds, reptiles, flora, invertebrates, fish and amphibians. The results of these workshops will be presented in the following days at the symposium, which will focus on the status of rare or endangered species, present efforts to preserve them, and actions necessary to ensure their future.

The conference is being organized by the Center for Action on Endangered Species, Monitor International, and Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies. For further information contact: Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies, P.O. Box 826, Provincetown, Mass. 02657.

TEENAGER WRITES COOKBOOK FOR CRITTERS

Michelle Reynolds, 13, of Cumberland, Va. is the author of a recently published cookbook of recipes to pamper a pet's palate, called "Critters' Kitchen", a project she has been working on since the age of 9. Published by Atheneum, the book includes recipes for "dog food cake" and "pussy cat pie", as well as more exotic dishes like a special supper for skunks which requires six grasshoppers, and a treat for turtles calling for five live worms and two slugs.

N.E. FEDERATION OF HUMANE SOCIETIES MEETING

The New England Federation of Humane Societies (NEFHS) will hold its annual meeting and humane education conference, May 21-23, at Ashworth By The Sea, Hampton Beach, N.H. The three-day meeting will feature presentations on such topics as disaster relief for animals, waterfowl and oil spills, the Eastern coyote, the pet trade, and much more. Two League staff members, Richard W. Bryant and Robin Napolitan, will deliver talks at the one-day humane education conference, held May 21 in conjunction with the annual meeting.

DOG FOOD PURCHASES CAN HELP NEEDY ANIMALS

If you have a dog that eats Purina dog food, you can help the Animal Rescue League raise funds for the care and shelter of homeless animals. Here's how:

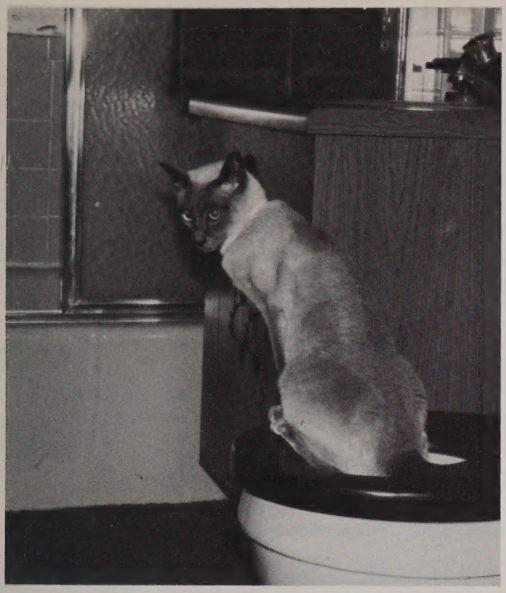
1) Cut out the weight circles from 25, 40, and 50 pound bags of Purina dog food, and

2) send the circles to:

Animal Rescue League of Boston
P. O. Box 265
Boston, Mass. 02117

Purina will pay the League 2¢ per pound for each weight circle we send them.

IS THERE NO SUCH THING AS PRIVACY?



In response to the article on the canine waste disposal problem in the winter issue of Our Fourfooted Friends, Laura and David Gray of Arlington submitted this photo of their pet Siamese, graphically demonstrating that a finicky feline can learn to dispense with litter box or pooper scoopers. "Taka-meshugge" (whose name means "really crazy") was trained in six months to seek out the toilet when nature calls. "He also picked up the human habit of privacy and was obviously resentful of the camera's intrusion," says owner Laura Gray. The Grays used a training program described in a book titled, "You Can Teach Your Cat To Do What You Want It To Do."

IN MEMORIAM

The officers, directors and staff of the League mourn the death this winter of Brooks Potter, a member of the board of directors since 1955. A senior partner in the Boston law firm of Choate, Hall & Stewart, Mr. Potter's career spanned more than five decades of legal and civic service.

The League's board of directors has passed a resolution stating:

"Whereas Brooks Potter was a valued director and dear friend of the Animal Rescue League of Boston and devoted generously of his time and talents for many years to aid and support the cause of the League's work, be it resolved that, the Board of Directors of the Animal Rescue League of Boston hereby express their deep regret and sorrow for the tragic death of Brooks Potter on December 29, 1979, and extend their profound and heartfelt sympathy to his family and friends."

BARK MAKES A TASTY BITE FOR AQUARIUM BEAVERS

League member Pat Loring sent along this excerpt from the newsletter of the New England Wildflower Society, to share with readers of Our Fourfooted Friends:

"Esther Parker, a trustee of the Society, cut down her willow tree this fall. In response to the "Spare Wood for Beavers" article in the NEWFS fall newsletter, she contacted Jean and David Sattely, who arrived in a truck and took the tree to the New England Aquarium, where it was prepared for the beavers' meal. The beavers loved their gourmet treat and will continue to feast throughout the winter, thanks to Esther Parker's generosity."

Youngsters love the Animal Friends Club

ENCLOSED IS $2.00 FOR A GIFT MEMBERSHIP FOR:

NAME ----------
(print clearly)

ADDRESS ----------
(street)

(city or town) (state) (zip code)

FROM: ----------
(your name)

(street)

(city or town) (state) (zip code)

A GREAT GIFT IDEA!

Are you looking for a nice gift to give your friends? How about a gift membership in the Animal Friends Club? It's a present that keeps giving all year long. Each gift membership costs only $2.00. Your friend will receive a card announcing your gift as well as their membership card, a free poster, and a year's worth of the Animal Friends newsletter. Fill out the coupon now and mail it with $2.00 to:

ANIMAL FRIENDS CLUB
Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265
Boston, Massachusetts 02117

NEWSFRONT

ACCIDENT WAS A DOG-GONE SHAME

Police in Portland, Maine this winter were summoned to the scene of an accident in which a pick-up truck was driven into a parked car. On arrival, they discovered that the driver at fault did have a license -- but he was wearing it around his neck! A dog sitting in the driver's seat had apparently kicked the shift gear into neutral causing the truck to roll down a grade into the parked car, according to a report in the Portland Press Herald. The owner of the parked car was reported to be "amused", despite several hundred dollars worth of damage. The breed and name of the driver were being "withheld pending completion of the investigation," the report stated.

LEAGUE INVESTIGATION UNCOVERS DOGNAPPING OPERATION

When League inspector Peter Faux responded to a report this winter of eight dead dogs found in a vacant lot in Roxbury, he heard barking coming from a nearby garage. Looking through a window, he was six dogs, all German Shepherds, chained to the walls. He summoned the police who broke into the padlocked garage and freed the animals, which were dirty and hungry but otherwise unharmed. The names of the garage owners were withheld pending an investigation to determine whether the animals had been stolen for resale as guard dogs to security firms.

Meanwhile, television coverage of the incident led to one happy reunion when Cornell Patterson of Dorchester recognized his dog, "Bruno," being hustled into a police wagon after his rescue. Missing for two weeks after "taking off after a girl dog," Bruno is now back at home with his owners, and their two other dogs and a cat. Another one of the dogs was subsequently returned to owner Sarah West of Mattapan.

For those who would like to help the League with a gift of a specific needed item, or a contribution toward the purchase of a piece of equipment, the following items are still needed:

- A self-contained stainless steel rolling examination table needed for veterinary staff use in our animal shelter. Contains supplies and diagnostic tools for examining, vaccinating and treating lost and unwanted animals. (approximate cost $350.)

- A two-horse trailer, to be used for the rescue and transport of horses, livestock and other large animals that have been neglected, injured or abused (approximately $2500).

Rescue Boat Named For Dog Born in Blizzard

Thanks to the generosity of Henry T. Wiggin of Brookline and his Scottie "Storm," who contributed $390, and an anonymous donor who gave $100, the League now has a new lightweight, flat-bottomed motor boat to use in water rescues of animals and birds in distress. In honor of Mr. Wiggin's pet, who was born at the height of the blizzard of '78, and since the rescue boat will be most in demand in bad weather, it has been appropriately christened "Storm". Above, League agent Alan Borgal and inspector Peter Faux load the rescue boat into an Animal Rescue League ambulance.

If you would like to make a donation toward the purchase of one of these items, please be sure to indicate the purpose for which your gift should be used. All donations toward these items will be acknowledged in future issues of Our Fourfooted Friends, unless otherwise requested. Gifts should be sent to: Animal Rescue League of Boston, P.O. Box 265, Boston, Mass. 02117.

ADOPT-A-PET

Healthy, Friendly pups, kittens & older pets need loving parents who care. Visit our adoption center:

Boston: 10 Chandler Street
Phone 426-9170
Cape Cod: Rte. 6A, E. Brewster
Phone 255-1030
North Shore: 378 Highland Ave., Salem
Phone 744-7910

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON

"I suppose you're wondering, 'Why is the cat here?"

If you're fond of animals...

The League continues to rely on the generosity of its friends to meet the ever-expanding needs of our animal population. The cruel realism of inflation makes the League's task in providing needed services more difficult than ever, but with continued support, the challenge can and will be met.

In making a bequest to the League in your Will, please remember that the corporate title of our society is "Animal Rescue League of Boston", that it was incorporated in 1899, and has no connection with any other similar society.

Form of Bequest:

I give to the Animal Rescue League of Boston the sum of_____dollars. The League's address is: 10 Chandler Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02116.

Membership in the A.R.L. makes a nice gift for someone special

Please send a gift membership in the Animal Rescue League of Boston for the class of membership checked below. (dues are enclosed):

- ☐ **Benefactor, $1,000.00**
- ☐ **Patron, $500.00 annually**
- ☐ **Contributing, $100.00 annually**
- ☐ **Supporting, $50.00 annually**
- ☐ **Active, $25.00 annually**
- ☐ **Associate, $10.00 annually**
- ☐ **Donor, Any amount**

To:

Name_____
Address_____
City_____
State_____
Zip_____

Your Name and Address:

Name_____
Address_____
City_____
State_____
Zip_____

Please mail your magazine, Our Four footed Friends, to the address given above. ($2 of membership fee covers a year's subscription).

Animal Rescue League of Boston
P. O. Box 265, Boston, Massachusetts 02117

Our Fourfooted Friends [US ISSN 0030-6851]
Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265, Boston, Massachusetts 02117

Address correction requested.

Come to the Animal Rescue League of Boston's Annual Meeting

Thursday
April 24, 1980 2:30 PM

Featuring
A presentation on the future for zoo animals in Boston
By
Timothy Anderson
Executive Director
of the Boston Zoological Society

League Headquarters Auditorium
Corner of Arlington & Tremont Streets
Boston, Mass.